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COMBAT CENTER BULLETIN 6240.1A

From: Commanding General
To: Distribution List

Subj: CHLORINATION OF FIELD WATER SUPPLIES

Ref: (a) Manual of Naval Preventive Medicine, NAVMED P-5010-5

Encl: (1) Chlorination of Field Water Supplies

1. Purpose. To publish regulations pertaining to field water supply and disinfection applicable to all units aboard the Combat Center.

2. Background. Reference (a) recommends maintaining a Free Available Chlorine (FAC) residual of 2.0 parts per million (PPM) in open systems. This residual to neutralize bacterial contamination that may be introduced to the system while in use. An FAC of 2.0 ppm is odorless, tasteless, and will not cause any irritation of the gastrointestinal tract. Because the Combat Center's closed potable water system maintains the FAC at 0.2 ppm, it is necessary to increase the chlorine residual in water to be used in the field. Since it is impractical to increase the FAC in small containers such as canteens or five gallon cans, water for field use will be drawn water trucks and trailers that have been chlorinated to the required FAC level for field use.

3. Action. Small container such as canteens and five gallon cans will be filled from water trucks and trailers which have been disinfected and filled using the procedure described in enclosure (1). When water trucks and trailers are not available, water may be drawn from the Combat Center's potable water system. If water is to be drawn directly from the tap, the canteen or other container as well as the tap should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected (if possible), the water should be allowed to run at full force for at least sixty seconds before filling, and the tap should not be allowed to touch the container. Due to the increased risk of surface contamination, under no circumstances should taps in head facilities be used to fill canteens.

J. A. KEENAN
By direction

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CHLORINATION OF FIELD WATER SUPPLIES

Chlorination of water containers for field potable water use must be supervised by a Preventive Medicine Technician (PMT). All 7th Marine units and units deployed for training will go through the Regimental Aid Station (Bldg. 1458, ext. 5830) for this service. Units of Headquarters Battalion and Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School will first contact the 7th RAS to request support. If the RAS is unable to perform chlorination, the Preventive Medicine Division at the Naval Hospital can be contacted at ext. 2002 to arrange for chlorination. It is essential that arrangements be made well in advance for chlorination of water bulls. The process itself is relatively time consuming, and because the Naval Hospital does not stock chlorine for this purpose, time must be allowed to obtain it elsewhere.

Chlorination at time other than normal working hours will be performed on an emergency basis only. If there is a bona fide emergency, a Preventive Medicine Division representative can be reached by calling the Naval Hospital quarter-deck at ext. 2190.

1. Procedure. Ensure that the container to be filled is filled is clean and in good repair. The inside of the container should be absolutely clean, gaskets should be properly installed and show no signs of deterioration, and all valves and covers should be functioning properly.

2. A special cleaning procedure is required if any of the following condition apply:

a. The container is going into service for the first time;

b. The container has been dismantled or had any components replaced or repaired;

c. The container was obviously dirty on visual inspection; or,

d. There is evidence of, or reason to suspect any type of contamination.

e. Special cleaning procedure:

(1) Scrub the interior surface with a soft brush and a nontoxic detergent solution. Be sure to scrub all gaskets, lids, and spigot openings. Drain off detergent by opening all valves.

(2) If available, high pressure steam or water should be used for the initial rinse. Rinse thoroughly with potable water.
Extensive rinsing may be necessary to completely remove detergent.

(3) Present the container to a PMT for sanitation procedure.

3. Once the container has been fully prepared and is ready for use, fill half way with potable water and present to PMT for inspection and chlorination.

4. Once the container has passed inspection and been chlorinated under PMT supervision, fill container to capacity and return to PMT for testing. Once tested and cleared, proceed to user point.

5. If there are any questions concerning potable water, the Preventive Medicine Division of the Naval Hospital can be reached at ext. 2002.

ENCLOSURE (1)